

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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THE BROKEN SAFEGUARDS.

The Star believes that the protest of the Territorial Board of Health against the order of Surgeon General Wyman taking down the yellow fever bars which protect Hawaii from Latin American commerce, should be followed by similar action on the part of the Mayor and Supervisors of Honolulu and by the commercial bodies of the city. The Governor and Delegate might also be of service.

Probably owing to the protest of the shipping and allied interests, the Surgeon General has freed the vessels on the Mexican-South American-Honolulu run from the necessity of fumigating at the south coast ports, simply requiring that process on their arrival here. Thus infected mosquitoes may come along with the boats, to be driven ashore here by the fumigating process of the harbor. That is to say, in times of yellow fever on the coast, our chances of having it brought here will be increased, and at all times there is danger.

May we suggest to Congressman Kahn that California has much reason to aid Hawaii to protect itself from epidemics—for they might easily reach San Francisco from this port—and that, the local health authorities might value his influence and that of the California delegation at this juncture.

While we do not consider the situation as one calling for hysteria, we do think that a firm attitude of protest all around will induce the national health authorities to put back the safeguards we have lost.

ITALY, TURKEY AND TRIPOLI.

Since the fatal ending of Italy's campaign in Abyssinia she has kept the peace. It is many years since she lost an army in Menelik's borderland, and her defeat there was so overwhelming that it was even thought she would have to lose her military place in the Dreilund. But she reorganized her army and stayed in the triple alliance, though not accounted of much merit there. Now, it seems, Italy again ventures into the sphere of colonial conquest and demands a cession of Tripoli from Turkey, a province which the United States once chastised for piracy and which, when it was ancient Carthage, was conquered by Rome.

Turkey has no apparent reason to give up Tripoli. She does not owe anything to Italian creditors, but Italy feels that while the North African littoral is going piecemeal to European powers she ought to have a share—and Tripoli is just across the way. Hence the sudden military and naval preparation on the part of the Rome government.

Turkey has a small navy, but nothing to equal the Italian, but her fighting men are not to be despised. Even Napoleon, who meddled with all the other European powers, was glad to let Turkey alone. There is no subject, furthermore, upon which the Turks are more sensitive than new sessions of territory and it was because of Abdul Hamid's constant knuckling down to the predatory powers that he lost his throne. The young Turks were enraged by a look at the dwindling national map. Egypt and Greece gone, the most of northern Africa taken, Cyprus lost, Crete under foreign supervision, the Balkan States wrested away—soon nothing would be left but a refuge in Asia. Then came the revolution; and now comes Italy's further affront to the spirit of Ottoman hegemony.

If war comes, in which there is no concert of powers against them, the Turks will fight if they can get enough men into Tripoli, and Italy, in that event, may find them no less formidable than the Abyssinians. But the difficulty will be in conveying an army there in face of the Italian fleet.

SIMPLIFYING AGRICULTURE.

A bulletin of thrilling interest to agriculturists everywhere and to those of the west in particular, has just been issued by the Department of Agriculture. It is Bulletin No. 80 of the Bureau of Soils, and contains an exhaustive discussion on the infertility of soils, with a comprehensive description of some of the organic constituents responsible for soil unproductivity.

The chief source of infertility, according to this bulletin, is dihydroxystearic acid—something every farmer should be able to detect and overcome. The presence of dihydroxystearic acid may be easily determined by a very simple process of biochemistry, according to the bulletin, usually done with a Pasteur-Chamberland filter. All there is to do is to filtrate the soil, draw off the supernatant liquids—and there you are. That this process also occasionally detects the presence of hentriacontane, monohydroxystearic acid, agrocetic acid, lignoceric acid, phytosterol, pentosans, histidine, xanthine, hypoxanthine, picoline and other pyridine derivatives, should occasion no alarm, as monodihydroxystearic is the thing to find and beware of.

In order to avoid possible confusion, and to make the process so simple a child may understand how to discover and treat dihydroxystearic acid, the bulletin further elaborates by stating that ten pounds of soil sifted through a two-millimeter sieve should be sufficient to detect either dihydroxystearic or monodihydroxystearic acid. If, after the supernatant alkaline has been thoroughly acidulated and flocculated, the precipitate should show cholesterol or phosphotungstic acid, you will at once know you are on the wrong track. The only thing to do in such cases is to wash the barium hydroxide with ammoniacal silver nitrate until the histidine diiodide becomes sufficiently prominent to apply the furfural test—whereupon the lecithins, terpenes and other carbohydrates will resolve into either elaidic, oleic or dihydroxystearic acid.

Closely allied to dihydroxystearic acid are xanthine and hypoxanthine, resulting from purine bases, guanine and adenine. These are not micaceous, are usually carollarized, and will be readily detected by the use of a small quantity of soluble hentriacontane in a furfural testing tube.

While the bulletin does not say so in so many words, the inference from the above lucid statements leads to the conclusion that with the farmers of the west now thus equipped to cope with dihydroxystearic acid, the infertility of the soil can be entirely overcome and its unproductiveness hereafter charged absolutely to the farmer's failure to observe the above simple formula for the detection and eradication of dihydroxystearic acid.

Mr. Thurston is still warm against rule by commission and may be right, but the brief abstract of his Hilo speech disclosed only the fear that "government appointed from Washington" would not be to Hawaii's advantage. But why should a commission so appointed be worse than a governor and judges of that origin are now? A commission of five ought to include at least three Hawaiians of the calibre of Mr. Thurston himself, and probably would. The original Philippine commission of seven—made at the close of a rebellion—contained four Americans and three Filipinos; and though Washington generally has directed affairs it does so wisely, much more so than we in Hawaii have done for ourselves wherever we have been free from Federal supervision and restraint.

Mr. Shingle is not a candidate for any office and regrets that his statement to that effect before he left here was not credited in some quarters so well as was the jollifying of George Davis in San Francisco. An interview with Mr. Shingle which the Star displays on the first page should settle the gubernatorial and congressional questions which the Davis interviews raised.

Uncle Walt The Poet Philosopher

She is a creature I admire, the woman of these later days; who goes forth, full of martial fire, the status of her sex to raise. I see her in the vanguard lit, I watch her nobly shape the strife; and yet I'm willing to admit I'm glad she's some one else's wife.

The rights she claims are justly hers, and I adore her from afar, when she casts off her silks and furs, and dons the panoply of war. I honor her—her cause I bless—she's fighting now for more than life! And yet I can't help but confess I'm glad she's some one else's wife. Too long she's groaned beneath the yoke, a yoke imposed by brutal man! It's time she left a trail of smoke, and to old customs tied the can! I cheer her as she seeks the fray, with blunderbuss and scolding knife, yet candor forces me to say I'm glad she's some one else's wife.

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WALT MASON.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

F. E. THOMPSON—Yes, Judge George Davis is back, either on his shield or with it, I don't know yet which.

CAPT. FORSTER—During school-going hours the Rapid Transit ought to run double shifts of cars, so that everybody can get seats.

SUPERVISOR MURRAY—Last Sunday, after the so-called fight in Cunha's alley, I motored round the island. An attack of dengue laid me up on Monday.

KAPPELMEISTER BERGER—I played this morning yes, for Mayor Fern's birthday break-out, and the members of the band were happy to be present.

JOHN HUGHES—I met Soap Box Orator Barron in San Francisco. He is coming back. He told me the Democratic program. He is to be governor and Joe Fern delegate to Congress.

DR. PRATT (Board of Health)—We are still waiting for the county to pass and enforce an ordinance which will keep the fish market stalls properly protected from flies or other contamination. I don't know when it will be done.

J. LIGHTFOOT—The testimony in the gambling cases is always exactly the same. McDuffie, Kellett and Apana listen outside some building, climb a water pipe and enter the place and some one of the Chinese inside testifies for them that the rest were gambling.

E. W. SUTTON—The few lights close to the water on Waikiki beach produce a very beautiful effect from a distance. A line of them from Fort de Russy around to the Cunha place would make a magnificent spectacle, besides being appreciated by bathers and others. The Public Service Association might well give attention to this matter.

J. A. HUGHES—We have had a very pleasant trip down on the Korea. San Francisco is proceeding slowly with her preparations for the fair, but she will soon get warmed up to the task and make the dirt fly. Application has been made for space for Hawaii's building and we shall be well taken care of. I met H. P. Wood in Frisco and he is looking after the matter.

E. C. PETERS—The police make a great mistake, in my opinion, in attacking Judge Monsarrat because they think he erred in one decision. It is up to the police to keep on their work and leave the judge to do his. My impression is that Judge Monsarrat is making a very good magistrate, indeed.

PRESIDENT PRATT (Board of Health)—The United Fruit Company, which operated a big line of steamers between Atlantic American ports and the West Indies and Central America, has some kind of an arrangement with the Marine Hospital Service by which each ship's doctor is qualified to inspect the passengers. The vessel is passed immediately by the boarding officer upon satisfactory report of the doctor on board. It would seem that some such arrangement might be made on the Pacific as well.

JOHN LITTLEWOOD—The trouble with Hawaiian politics is that there is too much praying and too little watching. You squeal about your rotten supervisors but it was you who elected them. You've got to get in and do practical politics in order to elect your good men if you succeed in nominating them. You can't win political victories sitting in an armchair or discussing matters at a vestry-meeting. The enemy play the game in politics for all its worth and take their coats off when they do so. It is up to the rank and file of Honolulu's citizens who are disgusted with the present supervisors to get in and dig and to meet their opponents with the same kind of political weapons which have been used against them in the past.

This last time Ah Lee came forward rather timidly. He resembled the first Ah Lee.

"Tollable mistake here," said this Ah Lee. "This Chinaboy owns lettah that you read. That my lettah. My girl write that lettah to me, I no sabe this policeman."

He pointed to Policeman Munn. Munn coughed two or three times and admitted that he didn't know whether this or the other Ah Lee was his man.

"Chinatown policeman sometimes fools," added Ah Lee to clinch his point.

The court, Munn and Cummings, hemmed and hawed for some time. Then they sent out to overtake the first Ah Lee. He was gone.

"There is nothing to do," said the court, "but to dismiss this case at once."

COURT ITEMS

The Kahuku murder trial, in which a Korean is charged with taking the life of a fellow countryman with malice aforethought, was resumed before Judge Cooper this morning.

In the case of von Hamm-Young Co., Ltd., against Mrs. Wm. Welsh the Supreme Court reversed the judgment of District Magistrate Monsarrat for defendant. It is held in the opinion that the law conferring the right of making contracts on married women involves their liability under contracts they may make even for necessities.

A decree of divorce was granted to Yaga Araki Ueno against Menojo on the ground of non-support, also one to Nobu Matsura against Yaichi Matsura for the same cause.

Judge Robinson made an order of personal service on James Archibald Reid of notice of pendency of the divorce suit brought against him here by Sibyl Isabel Reid. Service is to be made by the sheriff of San Francisco or one of his deputies. Libelle has never been a resident of this Territory. The cause is set for hearing on Saturday, November 11.

JAPANESE WON.

WAILUKU, Sept. 25.—Takamoto, the fleet Japanese distance runner from Honolulu, won the fifteen-mile Marathon race here in one hour, thirty-seven seconds. Scharsch ran seven miles in forty-two minutes. Later, Lahlili gave up at eight miles. Joe Smith won the bicycle race. Maxwell won the local two-mile race in eleven minutes, fifty-five seconds.

ALL WILL STAND THEIR TRIALS.

Before U. S. Judge Clemens this morning George Davis, Carl Smith and Charles Mitchell all pleaded not guilty to the several indictments against them for stealing or smuggling gin, as each case might be, from the German ship Alexander Isenberg. They were remanded until October 9 for separate trials.

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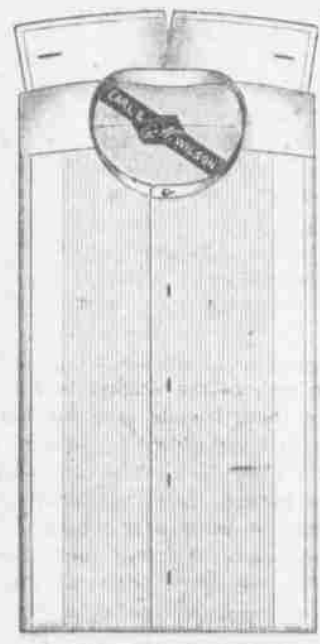
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